Evangelization Committee Report – 09/04/2018

Women’s Outreach:

*Walking with Purpose* completed. The 22-week course will start on September 20 and end March 21st in 6-week increments. It will be held Thursday mornings and evenings.

Men’s Outreach:

The program *That Man is You* will start Wednesday, September 12th at 5:45 am – 7:45 am for 13 weeks. The core team of men leading the effort have been meeting and preparing for the launch and implementation for the program. The program was announced at all Masses in June and registration has been proceeding. We have over 70 men registered.

<http://paradisusdei.org/that-man-is-you/>

Rebuilt: The Rebuilt committee is presently reading the Rebuilt book and will have its first meeting September 12th. A team of 12 individuals was established to provide sufficient diversity and agility to progress through the mission.

Donna Binney - staff

Ted Burkhardt - staff

Julianna Weber - staff

David James

Jeff Pickard

Ashley Gasch

Guy Cappuccino

Cindi Curtin

Katie Bennett

Matt Steppling

Tricia Buckman

Linda Gasch

We would ask everyone to pray regularly for the team; that in humility and charity, our thoughts, desires and motivations would be set aside; that the Holy Spirit would provide insight and vision for His plans to transform our parish; and that He would make us docile and receptive to them.

Dynamic Catholic:

We decided to purchase 1,008 of Matthew Kelly’s latest book *The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity* for $1. We aren’t considering this book for Christmas Mass distribution. Our sense was that those attending Mass regularly would benefit from it rather than those rarely attending.

We are also doing some preliminary research to see if it would be possible to get Matthew Kelly at a venue like Mt. St. Mary’s for a retreat next year.

Divorce Recovery Ministry:

A new “Surviving Divorce” program will be held on Tuesday nights from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm starting September 11th, 2018. This program will help bring personal healing and hope while offering wisdom and comfort from others who have shared experiences with divorce.

The Pennsylvania Sexual Abuse Scandal and Need for Healing:

We spent most of our meeting time discussing the recent scandal and what we should do to help parishioners deal with the various types of reactions one might be experiencing including despair, anger, hopelessness, a loss of faith in God and the Church, the desire to leave the Church, etc. There is great suffering in the body now.

This is something that needs further discussion and development, but we felt it was important to do something as an immediate response. So, we conducted 2 prayer vigils thus far on Wednesday evenings to pray for the Church, for the victims, the clergy, etc. We see the need for justice and mercy and the importance of the faithful in doing what they can in reparation for the sins committed. We also see the need for each of us to examine our lives and challenge ourselves to grow in holiness.

There will be an additional Day of Reparation and Fasting to The Sacred Heart of Jesus this Friday, September 7th which will begin at the 9:00 am Mass (First Friday). Following Mass the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed. There is a Signup Genius requesting people to sign up and be present during a particular hour for adoration and prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. At 6:30 pm we will have the Rosary and then Benediction will take place at 7:00 pm.

Retreats, Bible Studies, etc.

**Given – Unveiling the Mystery of Marriage Couples Retreat** – October 13th at St. Michael’s following the 9:00 am Mass – 3:00 pm.

**Called and Gifted** - The Catherine of Siena Institute has developed a small group workshop program to help you discern which of the twenty-four most common Individual Spiritual Gifts have been given to you. Led by Dave Michaels starting January 26th, 2019 and ending in April. Seven Saturdays followed by a break and then 5 more Saturdays.

**Ephesians** Bible Study – Jeff Cavins. Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am beginning October 2nd.

There is also consideration for running programs with the **Catholicism** series by Bishop Robert Barron and **Pivotal Players**.

Marriage Preparation – Looking at **Witness to Love** <https://witnesstolove.org/> and seeking couples who would be willing to be mentors and walk with the couple before and after their wedding day.

Baptismal Preparation – Looking at **Belonging** with Fr. Mike Schmitz to help parents seeking baptism to feel connected with a sense of belonging to the Church. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qv068i0Pss4>